WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- An electrochemical cell having a controlled electrode surface, comprising:
- a first electrode and a second electrode wherein at least one of the first and second electrodes has a carbonaceous surface;
 - an electrolyte containing at least one solvent;
- an additive associated with the carbonaceous surface of at least one of the first and second electrodes, wherein the additive comprises a compound having a molecular weight of not less than 105 and represented by the formula:

$$R^1$$
 C
 C
 R^2
 R^3

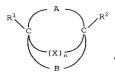
- wherein A is a group represented by:

- wherein X is a group represented by the formula:

or linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons,

- wherein n is 0, 1, 2, or 3; and
- wherein R_a , R_b , R_c , R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons.
- 2. The electrochemical cell according to claim 1, further comprising means associated with the additive for substantially precluding gas formation within the electrochemical cell as a result of decomposition of the additive during cell cycling and storage.
- 3. The electrochemical cell according to claim 1, further comprising means for increasing first cycle coulombic efficiency of the electrochemical cell relative to an electrochemical cell without the additive.
- 4. The electrochemical cell according to claim 3, wherein the efficiency increasing means comprises the additive.
- 5. The electrochemical cell according to claim 1, wherein the additive is substantially soluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.
- 6. The electrochemical cell according to claim 1, wherein the additive is substantially insoluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.

- 7. An electrochemical cell having a controlled electrode surface, comprising:
- a first electrode and a second electrode wherein at least one of the first and second electrodes has a carbonaceous surface;
 - an electrolyte containing at least one solvent;
- an additive associated with the carbonaceous surface of at least one of the first and second electrodes, wherein the additive comprises a compound having a molecular weight of not less than 105 and represented by the formula:



- wherein A is a group represented by:

- wherein ${\tt X}$ is a group represented by the formula:

or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons,

- wherein n is 0, 1, 2, or 3; and
- wherein B is a group represented by:

- wherein $\rm R^1,\ R^2,\ R_a,\ R_b,\ R_c,\ R^{11},\ R^{12},\ R^{13},\ R^{14},\ R^{15},\ R^{16},$

 \mathbb{R}^{17} and \mathbb{R}^{18} are independently hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons.

- 8. The electrochemical cell according to claim 7, further comprising means associated with the additive for substantially precluding gas formation within the electrochemical cell as a result of decomposition of the additive during cell cycling and storage.
- 9. The electrochemical cell according to claim 7, further comprising means for increasing first cycle coulombic efficiency of the electrochemical cell relative to an electrochemical cell without the additive.
- 10. The electrochemical cell according to claim 9, wherein the efficiency increasing means comprises the additive.
- 11. The electrochemical cell according to claim 7, wherein the additive is substantially soluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.
- 12. The electrochemical cell according to claim 7, wherein the additive is substantially insoluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.
- 13. An electrochemical cell having a controlled electrode surface, comprising:

- a first electrode and a second electrode wherein at least one of the first and second electrodes has a carbonaceous surface;
 - an electrolyte containing at least one solvent;
- an additive associated with the carbonaceous surface of at least one of the first and second electrodes, wherein the additive comprises a compound having a molecular weight of not less than 105 and represented by the formula:

$$R^1$$
 C
 C
 R^2
 C
 R^2
 C
 R^2

- wherein A is a group represented by:

wherein X is a group represented by the formula:

or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons,

- wherein n is 0, 1, 2, or 3;
- wherein B^1 and B^2 are independently hydrogen, a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons or a group represented by:



- wherein R, $\rm R^1$, $\rm R^2$, $\rm R_a$, $\rm R_b$, and $\rm R_c$ are independently hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbons.
- 14. The electrochemical cell according to claim 13, further comprising means associated with the additive for substantially precluding gas formation within the electrochemical cell as a result of decomposition of the additive during cell cycling and storage.
- 15. The electrochemical cell according to claim 13, further comprising means for increasing first cycle coulombic efficiency of the electrochemical cell relative to an electrochemical cell without the additive.

- 16. The electrochemical cell according to claim 15, wherein the efficiency increasing means comprises the additive.
- 17. The electrochemical cell according to claim 13, wherein the additive is substantially soluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.
- 18. The electrochemical cell according to claim 13, wherein the additive is substantially insoluble in the solvent of the electrolyte at ambient temperature.